

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 28, 1963

MR. PRESIDENT:

Mr. Bundy has asked that we notify you of the strafing of the U. S. merchant vessel "Floridian" at 1800 today by two unidentified jets at a position of 23N, 79W.

The master of the vessel says he has pictures of the planes firing on him.

The Floridian is a bona fide merchant ship, 360 feet long and was flying a U. S. flag from the stern at the time of the attack. It is now being escorted to Miami by two jets from CINCLANT. The ship belongs to the Container Ships, Inc. of Wilmington, Delaware, and was enroute from San Juan to Miami at the time of attack.

The Secretary of State is preparing a statement and will be in touch with you shortly.

Situation Room